

Appl. No. : 09/514,999
Filed : February 29, 2000

providing yeast somatic components selected from the group consisting of extracts obtained from yeast by physical crushing, extracts obtained from yeast by autolysis, extracts obtained from yeast with hot water, and yeast RNA compositions;

subjecting said yeast somatic components to nuclease digestion or alkali hydrolysis as a decomposition step for a time period effective to increase a yield of polyamines recovered in a subsequent recovery step by approximately two times or more as compared with a yield of polyamines recovered in the subsequent recovery step without this decomposition step; and

recovering polyamines from said decomposed components.

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Marx for the courteous telephone interview extended to Applicant's representative on April 18, 2002 in the prior application. The present Amendment is submitted in accordance with the discussion at the interview.

Claims 4, 7, and 9 have been amended to clarify the invention. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE." The amendments do not constitute the addition of any new matter to the specification. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 2-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the following terms or wordings in Claim 9 are not reasonably described in the specification:

"approximately double or more"

2-3.2 times

Examples 1, 2, and 3 show an increase by 3, 2.1, and 3.2 times, respectively, as compared with respective Comparative Examples 1, 2, and 3, wherein the only difference between the Examples and the Comparative Examples is omitting the decomposition step of Claim 9. The degree of purification of the starting material is not in issue. Accordingly, Claim 9 has been amended to clarify the decomposition step.

Infinite upper limit